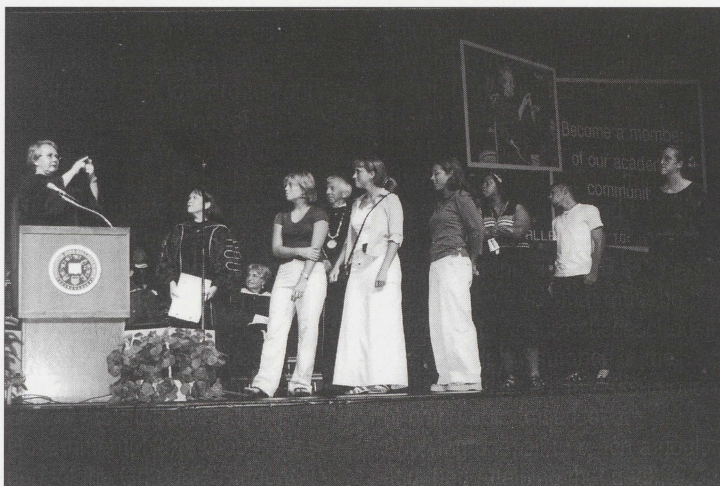




On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff
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Gallaudet welcomes the Class of 2004



College of Arts and Sciences Dean Jane Dillehay calls forward representatives of the Class of 2004 to take the five challenges which, if met, will lead to academic success. The students are (from left): Elizabeth Abenchuchan, from Florida; Jennifer Dignan, a transfer student from Missouri; Monique Silva, from Brazil; Tiffany Golden, from Tennessee; Carlos Corbin, from Virginia; and Clare Manson-Jones, from England. Joining the new students on the Elstad Auditorium stage are President I. King Jordan and Provost Jane Fernandes.

Gallaudet extended a warm welcome to the Class of 2004 at Convocation exercises August 21. The University's newest students also received the assurance that there are many people on campus who they can call on to ensure that their college career is successful.

As of August 29, 313 new students had enrolled for the fall semester. At Convocation, Director of Admissions Deborah DeStefano described the diverse characteristics of the class: the students range in age from 16 to 61; and there are 33 international students and 82 transfer students. In addition, 160 graduate students have enrolled and 20 students are in the English Language Institute. "I look forward to your work as ambassadors of Gallaudet and to your future role as alumni," said DeStefano.

The students and their families were greeted by President I. King Jordan and by John Yeh on behalf of the Board of Trustees. And they got a lesson in Gallaudet's academic traditions from Christopher Soukup, president of the Student Body Government, Harry Wood, president of the Graduate Student Association, Dr. Stephen Weiner,

dean of the School of Undergraduate Studies, and Carl Pramuk, executive director of Student Affairs.

Dr. William Marshall, chair of the Department of Administration and Supervision and chair of the Faculty Senate, told the new students that their arrival at Gallaudet is the first step in realizing a long-standing dream of their parents—that they would receive a college education. Marshall assured the families in the audience that they were leaving their sons and daughters "in the good hands of a wonderful faculty that is both wise and dedicated." He invited the audience to "stand and salute the finest teachers you will ever find on a college campus."

Dr. Ann Davidson-Powell, chair of the Biology Department and Distinguished Faculty Member for 1999-2000, informed the students that a good education is not measured only in the mastery of the 'Three R's.' There are also 'Five A's' that must be achieved to ensure success: positive Attitude; Assurance in the ability to succeed; the Assumption of being able to succeed; Applying oneself to reach a goal; and then Attaining that goal.

Michael Clegg, a sophomore,

is diligently applying himself to succeed. He told the new students about how he came to value a good education. Clegg began his address by saying, "You made the right decision to come here."

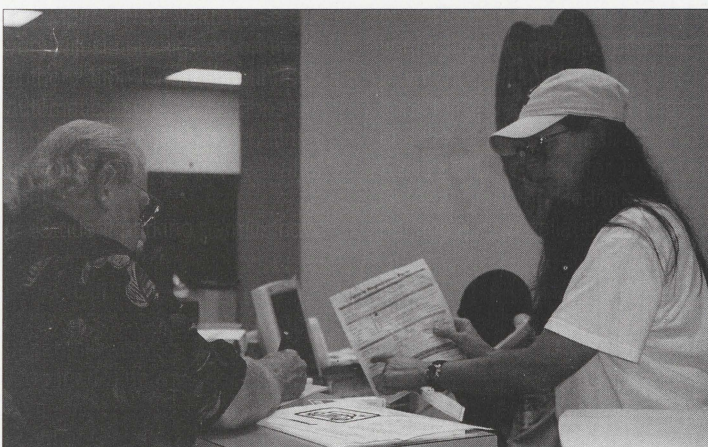
After Clegg graduated from a mainstream high school in Georgia, he tried a year of college, but "I was really burned out from school," he said. So he worked at odd jobs for a while, and attended a seminary. It dawned on him, "If I were ever to fulfill my dreams, I had to get an education." Clegg came to Gallaudet last January, and "I am so sure that I made the right decision," he said. But it was not always easy. "I missed my friends and family. Yes, I was overwhelmed. But I always knew that there was someone here to listen and help. ... I have been blessed to meet the most wonderful faculty, staff, and students. I know you

will, too."

Provost Jane Fernandes informed the Class of 2004 that it was the fourth class in the history of the University to be presented with five challenges that, if met, ensure success at Gallaudet. College of Arts and Sciences Dean Jane Dillehay called forward six students to represent the class, then read the challenges: to become members of the academic community; to do their best as students, scholars, and participants in academic life; to take responsibility for their learning; to celebrate diversity while building unity; and to join in the teaching and learning process.

The students on the stage then signed their names pledging to fulfill the challenges. They were joined by President Jordan, who said to the class, "Welcome into our proud community ... and good luck as you begin this exciting phase of your life."

Campus parking transferred to DOSS



Diana Thompson, a student assistant in DOSS's parking and I.D. section, helps Sam Yates, an ASL, deaf culture, and multicultural specialist at the Clerc Center, register his vehicle.

By Beth Folsom
The Department of Safety and Security (DOSS) assumed the responsibility of campus parking from Auxiliary Services on June 26.

Faculty and staff have the option of registering their vehicles by e-mail. Those who are interested in doing so should respond to the e-mail that was recently sent by DOSS requesting personal and vehicle information and a payment method. If drivers choose to pay for permits by payroll deduction or charge card, their decal will be delivered directly to their office. If they have additional vehicles that they drive to campus, the tag numbers must be registered with DOSS.

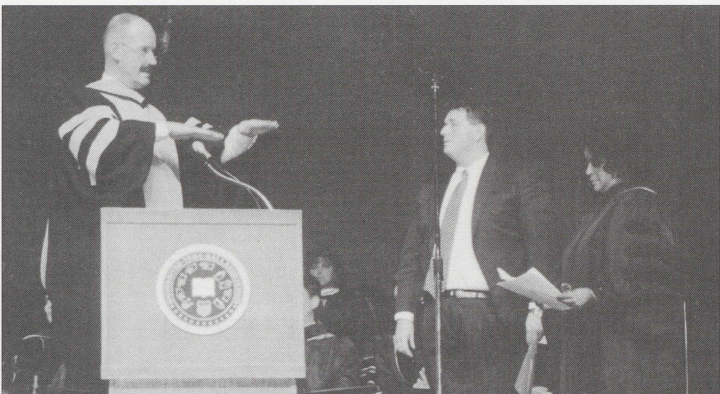
Another change for faculty and staff is the new gold-colored hanging decal. This permit will not expire. Next year, these drivers will simply sign off on the authorization form to continue automatic payroll deductions or send DOSS a check to continue using the same permit year after year.

Student parking permits have

been changed to stickers that will be placed in the front driver's side window. The stickers will self-destruct if anyone attempts to "borrow" them from the registrant's vehicle.

Additionally, the *Campus Parking and Traffic Regulations* booklet has been revised to be more user-friendly. DOSS encourages everyone to read and abide by the regulations noted. DOSS reminds everyone that if they have visitors who park their vehicles on campus, they too are responsible for adhering to campus parking regulations. Please read the booklet and explain to visitors where they can park. A new Visitors Parking Guide and Map will be available for all guests.

Please stop by the DOSS Office, located on the ground floor of Carlin Hall, for vehicle registration, temporary parking permits, payment of tickets, and applications for appeals. If anyone has questions, please e-mail them to Assistant Chief Jennifer Turner or Sergeant George Rountree at parking.doss@gallaudet.edu.



Dr. William Marshall, Faculty Senate chair, Dr. Ann Davidson-Powell, Distinguished Faculty member for 1999-2000, and sophomore Michael Clegg relate a parable about older generations building a bridge to help their successors at the August 21 Convocation ceremony.

Mentor program supports students and helps them stay in school

Sometimes, knowing that an understanding person is there to talk to can make any problem easier to deal with. This is particularly important for students—especially those who are new to the campus, are from cultural minority groups, or from another country. Often, these students can feel isolated, with no one to turn to for support.

But Gallaudet's Multicultural Mentoring Project intends to remedy that situation through a revitalized program that matches students with mentors.

The ultimate goal of the program is to support students and keep them in school. "In particular, for students of color or cultural minorities, it's important to have someone to identify with who has patience and time to give them, especially if they are not comfortable talking with their academic advisor or a teacher," said Keisha Scovens, program assistant for Multicultural Student Programs (MSP). Scovens is handling the duties of MSP Coordinator KP Perkins while she is on leave for the fall semester.

Currently, there are approximately 100 students in the mentoring program, but there is a shortage of mentors, so less than 50 percent of the mentees have been matched. To help generate interest in the program, a reception will be held in the Ely Multipurpose Room on September 20 from 4 to 6 p.m. The event will provide an opportunity to give more information about the program and for prospective mentors to meet

mentees.

Mentors can be faculty, staff, or graduate students. Actually, graduate students can be either mentors or mentees, but undergraduate students can only be mentees. Program participants are matched, as much as possible, on expressed interests or cultural background, depending on their preference, said Scovens. She added that some students prefer to be matched with mentors based on communication mode, gender, or sexual orientation.

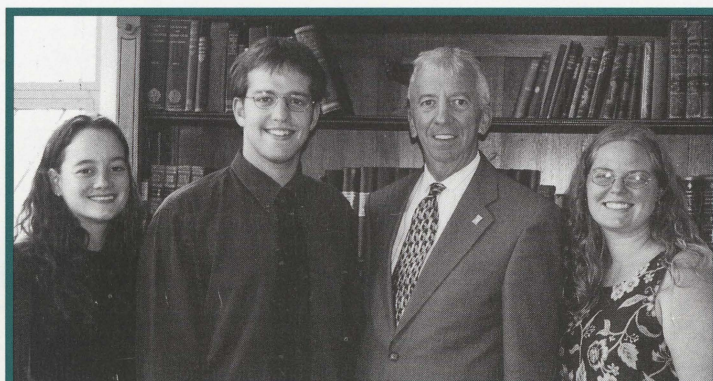
The qualifications to be a mentor are not rigorous—a commitment to support students, a positive attitude, and an open mind are the main requirements—but accepting the role is a serious obligation. The program staff asks that mentors make a minimum commitment to stay with the pro-

gram throughout the academic year, and that they take the time to meet with their student at least once a month for no less than two hours.

For those who are interested but feel that they may not be qualified, workshops will be provided throughout the year on topics such as establishing and increasing cross-cultural mentoring skills, and role expectations.

"Mentoring can be rewarding, challenging, and a whole lot of fun," said Scovens. "It is critical to have mentors join so that we can continue to offer this program to incoming students and have mentors for those on our waiting list."

For more information on the Multicultural Mentoring Project, e-mail msp.office, or call x5366. **G**



Before embarking on trips around the United States and parts of Canada, Gallaudet's newest recruiters (from left) Stella Egbert, Michael Boucher, and Rachel Pigott met with President Jordan on August 22. Egbert will recruit in the Southwest and Southeast regions of the country; Boucher will focus his time on the Northeast, plus Newfoundland and Ontario in Canada; and Pigott will take on the rest.

AMONG OURSELVES

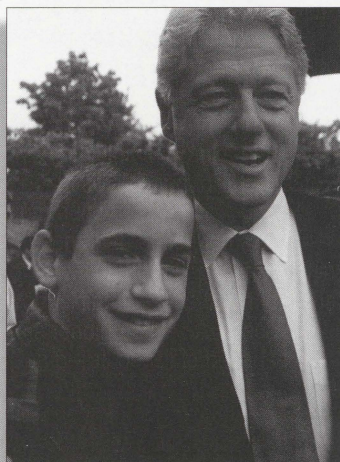
Gallaudet welcomes the following new faculty members for the 2000-2001 academic year: **Dr. R. Steven Ackley**, professor of audiology and speech-language pathology; **Jeff Akseizer**, lecturer, instructor of art; **Derek Braun**, assistant professor of biology; **Dr. Teresa Crowe**, assistant professor of social work; **Caroline Miller**, instructor of biology; **Angela Farrand**, instructor of theatre arts; and **Dr. Barbara Stock**, assistant professor of philosophy. In addition, a new President's Fellow, **Mairin Veith**, has been named.

Sophomore **Allison Polk** continues a Gallaudet tradition as a winner of this year's American News Womens Club's scholarship award. The organization awards \$3,000 scholarships to journalism/communications students from Gallaudet, George Mason, George Washington, and Howard universities, and the University of Maryland. Polk, who also has won Gallaudet's MacDougall Creative Writing Contest, is editor-in-chief

of *The Buff and Blue* for the 2000-2001 academic year. Her career ambitions are to be either a copy editor or a staff writer for a major daily newspaper or periodical. "All of [Gallaudet's] previous recipients of the American News Womens Club Scholarship (**Elise Kiholm**, **Sara Stallard**, **Louise Stern**, and **Kelly Short**), as well as Allison, have demonstrated force and grace in their writing as well as an ethical commitment to accuracy and fairness," said English professor **Pia Seagrave**. "As Editor-in-Chief of *The Buff and Blue* and in all her future endeavors, Allison will succeed because of her abilities, her drive, and her passion for excellence."

Dr. Pia Seagrave, professor of English, gave a poetry reading at the 23rd Appalachian Writers Workshop at the Hindman Settlement School, Hindman, Ky., on August 3. The reading was videotaped by Kentucky Educational Television and will be broadcast over KET affiliates.

CLERC CENTER HAPPENINGS



The day of the testimony, July 26, Jonathan Kessel joined his parents, Martin Kessel and Gail Robinson, I. King Jordan, and Jane K. Fernandes, president and provost of Gallaudet, respectively, and other members of the Deaf community at the FDR Memorial for a ceremony commemorating the ADA. After the speeches, President Clinton came to greet I. King Jordan—president to president—and Kessel was introduced. President Clinton told Kessel, "I know you are going to do a great job today," and offered to pose for a picture with him.

KDES graduate presents testimony on the ADA before Senate committee

By Susan M. Flanigan
Thirteen-year-old Jonathan Kessel began his testimony before the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee with some self-advocacy.

Seated at the adult-size table, Jonathan recognized it would be difficult to be seen. He respectfully requested, "Mr. Chairman, may I have your permission to stand and sign my presentation?" The request impressed not only Senator Jim Jeffords (R-Vt.), chair of the committee, but Senator Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), long-time friend of the Deaf community, who grinned at Kessel and signed a thumbs-up.

With his testimony on the importance of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Jonathan, a graduate of Kendall Demonstration Elementary School who will attend the Model Secondary School for the Deaf this fall, joins the ranks of Deaf people advocating for the Deaf community.

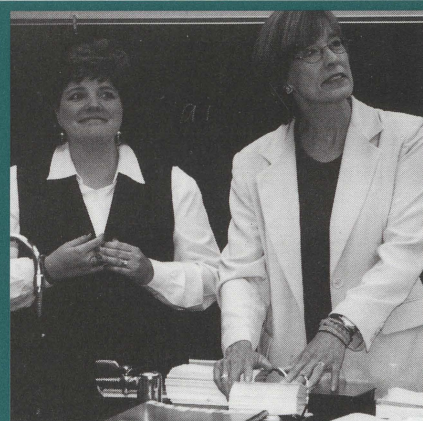
Jonathan described a number of activities he has participated in, from skiing lessons to art lessons to attending a NASA Space Camp—all possible because of

the ADA making interpreter services available.

Jonathan grew up in a post-ADA United States, but through visiting his three siblings, who live in Israel, he has found out how much more restrictive life is for deaf people in many other countries. He concluded his testimony with the thought that because of the ADA his future is full of choices. "When I think of how important the ADA has been to Deaf children like me, I am reminded of what I. King Jordan, president of Gallaudet, said: 'The only difference between hearing people and Deaf people is that we can't hear.'"

Jonathan's mother, Gail Robinson, said, "It was a very special day for the ADA and for us personally. One of the things that most impressed Jonathan from the whole experience was that I. King Jordan took the time to personally come and view the testimony. We are grateful to the members of the Deaf community who helped Jonathan prepare his signed presentation for the committee." **G**

Dr. Connie Schimmel (right) and **Sandra Edwards** present an overview of a research-based reading/language program for Grades K through adult for a Gallaudet audience on August 23 in Hall Memorial Building. The educators described a program based on five components that provide direct access to ASL, phonemic awareness, and reading comprehension, and opens a window for hearing and deaf people to begin to think and sign bilingually. Schimmel is president and founder of Fairview Learning Corporation and is an associate professor in the Department of Education at Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss. Edwards is a bilingual, bicultural reading specialist who teaches reading to deaf children and is a consultant for Fairview. The presentation was sponsored by the Department of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology through the support of a Faculty Development Grant.



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